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EDITORIAL NOTES.

With this number of your JOURNAL ends the sixth year of its life. With this month, too, ends another year in the life of every one of us, for no matter when the birthday may come, we instinctively, as did the ancients, measure our years—that which man calls time—by the changes upon the great sun dial of nature. The six years that have passed have been very notable ones in American medical history. They have seen the reorganization of the entire medical profession of the United States. They have witnessed the growth and development of the American Medical Association to a point where it has become the largest and probably the most influential medical organization in the world. During their passage the *Journal of the Association* has become by far the most comprehensive and in many ways the foremost medical journal published. To mention the fact that during this period the death knell of the fraudulent nostrum has been sounded by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, is but to state a fact now recognized by all. Medical education has been almost revolutionized in about the same period, and the results of the work of the Council on Medical Education will be more far reaching than many of us can at this time realize. Six years ago there was no thought taken of the necessity of popular education on things pertaining to public health; to-day there is not a state in the Union in which such

popular lectures have not been given and the work is growing and becoming systematized. In our own state this brief period of years has seen many changes. Our State Society has grown from a mere handful of men to an organization including within it nearly two-thirds of the active practitioners in its territory. Its component parts—the County Societies—have become, in many counties, factors of the greatest importance and benefit to their respective communities. There was a time when a certain insurance company sent out a circular to the effect that the three-dollar cut-rate fee for examinations had been accepted by physicians in all the United States “except California and some of the Southern states”; but it was *not* so accepted. Your JOURNAL has been in the thick of many fights and has become known in every city in the land as the mouthpiece of a society that is strong enough to fight (actively) for what it knows to be the right—and in spite of many threatened libel suits. The great American bluff does not always work. Troubles there have been, of course; there will always be troubles, large or small. It was a hard fight to keep going and pay bills, after the fire, and the loss is still most keenly felt; yet the JOURNAL is alive and the records of the Society are being slowly reaccumulated. The past year's business depression has touched us with no light finger; but we will make out to live in some fashion—and to keep on fighting for truth and honesty. And so the years go. May those to come bring to us harmony, prosperity and happiness; the little troubles will soon be forgotten.

The culmination of insult upon insult heaped, not alone upon every citizen of California from San Diego to Crescent City, but upon every American citizen, was reached when Francis J. Heney was shot down in court during his trial of Abe Ruef in the United Railways bribery case. For months the law has permitted, and many citizens have applauded, not the trial of those indicted for crime, but the trial of judges, attorneys for the prosecution, witnesses, prospective jurors and every one who raised his voice for decency, honesty and right. The whole social structure of the state has been almost openly debauched by the “higher-ups” until, as Charles Wheeler said at a mass meeting on November 14th, it has become a mark of distinction for a wealthy man to enter social life with his dress clothes plastered with indictments. Nearly every influential paper in the state has been almost openly bought by the wealth of the bribe givers. Heney has been reviled, ridiculed, cartooned, slandered and abused in a manner to excite the anger and the active resentment of every decent, clean-minded man. And for what? For his effort to try and convict a *self-confessed criminal and those who paid him bribe money!* And for whom has Heney been fighting? Not for himself, for he has not been paid a cent nor is to receive anything. His fight is for you and for me; for